

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION -- DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
MAY 20, 2008**

**ITEM 4**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE (CBI) GRANT PROGRAM RECOMMENDED PROJECT LIST (RPL)

**DISCUSSION**

In November 2002, voters approved the *Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal, and Beach Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 50) authorizing the issuance of bonds to fund a variety of water quality improvement projects. The 2005/06 Budget Act appropriated \$23 million of Proposition 50 funds for CBI projects. Additional funds are available from the Proposition 13 Coastal Nonpoint Source Control Program. Grant funding is for projects that restore and protect the water quality and the environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays, and near shore waters.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted the CBI Guidelines (Guidelines) on October 25, 2006 in [Resolution No. 2006-0074](#). The Guidelines identify priorities for research and implementation of projects. State Water Board staff solicited concept proposals (CP) in accordance with the Guidelines. The Clean Beaches Task Force (CBTF) reviewed the CPs and developed the RPL. The State Water Board adopted the RPL on April 18, 2007 in [Resolution No. 2007-0014](#). The RPL has more projects than available funding, and projects on the RPL are funded in the order detailed applications are received until the funding is exhausted. Although up to \$10 million was reserved for research projects in the Guidelines, only \$4.3 million in research projects were submitted and subsequently included in the adopted RPL.

The Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) did not submit a CP for the Avalon Beach Epidemiology Study (Project) during the Proposition 50 solicitation period because the Project was already underway; therefore, the Project is not currently on the CBI RPL. The Project is aligned with the CBTF's Proposition 50 Research Priorities and is eligible for Proposition 50 funding. CBTF reviewed the CP for the Project and recommends that it be added to the RPL.

The Project is part of a larger study that is being funded by multiple sources. In 2006, SCCWRP received grants from the National Institute of Health (\$1.3 million), the State Water Board from Ocean Protection Project funds (\$3.0 million), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (\$1.3 million) to conduct three epidemiology studies to assess the linkage between health effects and new water quality measurement methods. Each study is conducted at a different beach because of the differences in fecal sources. The fecal source at Avalon Beach is a point source (leaking sewer infrastructure), Doheny Beach is predominantly a nonpoint source, and Surf Rider Beach is a mix of both.

The Project consists of recruiting recreational swimmers at Avalon Beach on Catalina Island to participate in a survey to assess the correlation between water exposure and subsequent illness. Water quality data will be collected at the same time and location as beachgoer recruitment in order to assess swimmer exposure. This study on Avalon Beach was initiated during the summer of 2007; however, only 50 percent of the target swimmers were recruited due to the low turnover of visitors on Catalina Island, making it difficult to reach statistically significant conclusions. The Project will fund SCCWRP to return in the summer of 2008 to complete the study.

Also, the City of Los Angeles submitted two CPs, which were combined when placed on the RPL. The City subsequently secured California Environmental Quality Act documents and their Authorized Representative Resolution using a different project title than shown on the RPL. To correct the administrative oversight, staff proposes that the project title be changed from “Los Angeles County Beaches Multiple Low Flow Diversion Expansions” to “Santa Monica Bay Low Flow Diversion Upgrades” to correspond with the City Resolutions. All other aspects of this project remain the same.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The adoption of this Resolution is not a funding award. Projects on the RPL allow the applicants to continue to compete for available funding.

### **REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT**

The projects are in the Los Angeles Region and are consistent with existing Water Quality Control Plans.

### **POLICY ISSUE**

- 1) Should the State Water Board approve the addition of the Project to the CBI Program RPL, making it eligible to compete for funding?
- 2) Should the State Water Board approve the change in title for the City of Los Angeles’ project to “Santa Monica Bay Low Flow Diversion Upgrades?”

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That the State Water Board adopt a Resolution to approve the addition of the Project to the CBI Program RPL, making it eligible to compete for funding.
- 2) That the State Water Board approves the change in title for the City of Los Angeles’ project to “Santa Monica Bay Low Flow Diversion Upgrades.”

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## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2008-

### REVISE THE CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE (CBI) GRANT PROGRAM RECOMMENDED PROJECT LIST (RPL)

#### WHEREAS:

1. In November 2002, voters approved the *Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal, and Beach Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 50) authorizing the issuance of bonds to fund a variety of water quality improvement projects. The 2005/06 Budget Act (Act) appropriated \$23 million of Proposition 50 funds for CBI projects. Additional funds are also available from Proposition 13;
2. The CBI funds appropriated in the Act are available for encumbrance up to June 30, 2008;
3. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted the CBI Guidelines (Guidelines) on October 25, 2006, in [Resolution No. 2006-0074](#), establishing the evaluation criteria and the review and selection process for the CBI Grant Program;
4. The State Water Board adopted the CBI RPL at its April 18, 2007 meeting in [Resolution No. 2007-0014](#).
5. The Clean Beaches Task Force reviewed the Concept Proposal for the Avalon Beach Epidemiology Study (Project), and recommends that it be added to the RPL;
6. The Project is routine, non-controversial, and is consistent with CBI Guidelines.
7. The City of Los Angeles adopted resolutions and California Environmental Quality Act approvals using the project title "Santa Monica Bay Low Flow Diversion Upgrades," where the RPL has the title "Los Angeles County Beaches Multiple Low Flow Diversion Expansion" for the same project.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1) The State Water Board adopts a Resolution to approve the addition of the Project to the CBI Program RPL, making it eligible to compete for funding; and

# **D R A F T**

- 2) That the State Water Board approves the change in title of the City of Los Angeles' project to "Santa Monica Bay Low Flow Diversion Upgrades."

## **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the forgoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Board held on May 20, 2008.

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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board